

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re continuation patent application of:	)	Before the Examiner Woo
	)	
David R. Hathaway	)	Group Art Unit 3731
	)	
Serial No.(unknown)	)	
	)	November 13, 2001
Filed Herewith	)	
	)	
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR	)	
POSITIVE CLOSURE OF AN INTERNAL	)	
TISSUE MEMBRANE OPENING	)	

**PRELIMINARY**  
**AMENDMENT**

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3030.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claims 2-36.